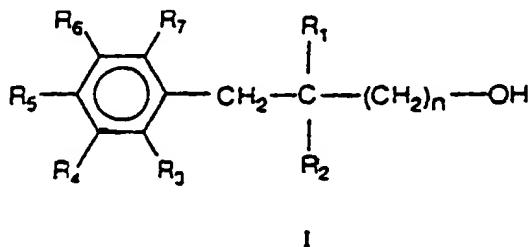


8. (Previously amended) Composition according to claim 14 which contains

- (a) 0.01 to 10% by wt. of a compound of formula I, and
- (b) 0.1 to 90% by wt. of a compound selected from C₁-C₆ alkyl alcohols, unsubstituted or substituted with a C₆-C₁₂ aryl, aralkyl or aryloxy group, anionic cationic, amphoteric or nonionic surfactants, dimethylformamide, betaines and glycerine.

13. (Previously presented) A compound according to formula I,

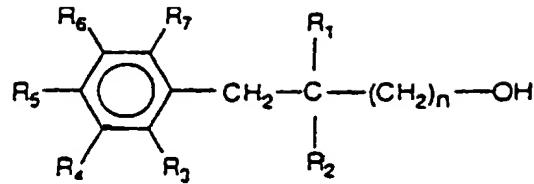


wherein R₁, R₃, R₅, R₆, and R₇ are hydrogen; R₂ is an ethyl group; R₄ is chlorine; and n is 1 or 2.

14. (Previously presented) A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative comprising:

a compound selected from alcohols, surfactants and solvents; and

at least one compound according to formula I:



wherein,

R₁ is hydrogen or is selected from C₁-C₈ alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C₂-C₈ alkenyl and C₃-C₈ alkynyl;

R₂ is selected from C₁-C₈ alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C₂-C₈ alkenyl and C₃-C₈ alkynyl; and

each of R₃ to R₇ independently, is hydrogen, halogen, nitrile or thiocyanate, or selected from C₁-C₈ alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C₂-C₈ alkenyl and C₃-C₈ alkynyl, optionally attached to the aromatic ring by -S- or -O-, and n is 1 or 2,

with the proviso, that

i) when R₁ and all groups R₃ through R₇ are hydrogen, then

n = 2;

ii) when R₁ and R₂ are C₁-C₆ alkyl and

a) all groups R₃ to R₇ are hydrogen, or

b) R₅ is methyl, methoxy or chloride, and all other groups R₃,

R₄, R₆ and R₇ are hydrogen,

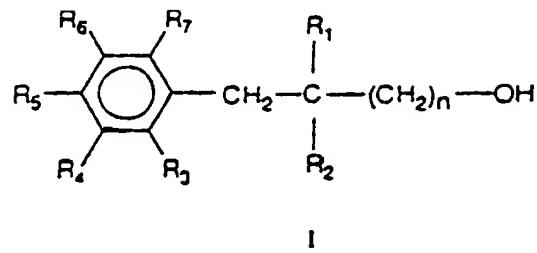
then n =2;

- iii) when R_1 , R_2 and R_4 are methyl and all groups R_3 and R_5 through R_7 are hydrogen, then $n = 2$;
- iv) when R_1 and all groups R_3 , R_4 , R_6 and R_7 are hydrogen and R_5 is methyl, isopropyl, tert-butyl, or methoxy, then $n = 2$;
- v) when R_1 , R_3 , R_6 and R_7 are hydrogen, R_2 is methyl, and R_4 and/or R_5 are hydrogen or C_1 - C_6 alkyl, then $n = 2$;
- vi) when R_1 and R_4 through R_7 are hydrogen, R_2 is methyl or ethyl, and R_3 is methyl or methoxy, then $n = 2$;
- vii) when R_1 , R_3 , R_5 and R_7 are hydrogen, R_2 is methyl, R_4 and R_6 are methyl or R_4 is hydrogen and R_6 is methyl, then $n = 2$; and
- viii) when R_1 is hydrogen, R_2 is butyl, R_3 and R_5 are chloride, and all other groups R_4 , R_6 and R_7 are hydrogen, then $n = 2$.

16. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 14, wherein said compound according to formula I is present in an amount of about 0.01 to about 10% by weight.
17. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 14, wherein said compound according to formula I is present in an amount of about 0.05 to about 8% by weight.

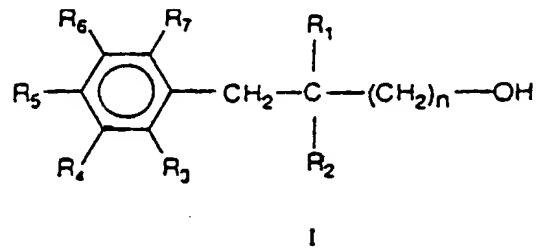
18. (Previously presented) A composition according to claim 14, wherein said compound according to formula I is present in an amount of about 0.1 to about 5% by weight.

19. (Withdrawn) A compound according to the formula I



wherein R₃, R₄, R₆ and R₇ are all hydrogen, R₅ is methyl, R₂ is ethyl, R₁ is hydrogen, and n = 1.

20. (Withdrawn) Process for the production of a compound of formula I:

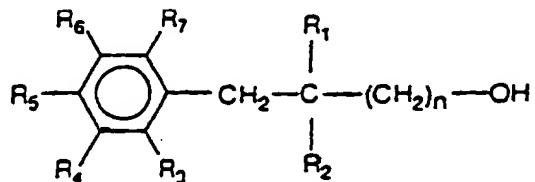


wherein, R₃, R₄, R₆ and R₇ are all hydrogen, R₅ is methyl, R₂ is ethyl, R₁ is hydrogen, and n = 1
said process comprising the steps of:

- a) monoalkylating a malonic acid dialkyl ester to introduce the group R₂;
- b) dialkylating the monoalkylated malonic acid alkyl ester with a benzyl halide optionally substituted at the aromatic ring to introduce the groups R₃ through R₇, which are other than hydrogen;
- c) saponifying and decarboxylating the dialkylated malonic acid dialkyl ester to form a corresponding 3-aryl-substituted propionic acid, and
- d) reducing the 3-aryl-substituted propionic acid to form a desired alcohol of formula I.

21. (Previously presented) A shampoo or shower gel containing a preservative comprising:

- a compound selected from alcohols, surfactants and solvents;
- a re-fattening agent; and
- a compound according to formula I:

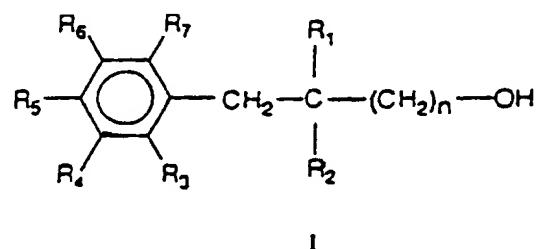


wherein,

R₁ is hydrogen or is selected from C₁-C₈ alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C₂-C₈ alkenyl and C₃-C₈ alkynyl;

R_2 is selected from C_1 - C_8 alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C_2 - C_8 alkenyl and C_3 - C_8 alkynyl; and each of R_3 to R_7 independently, is hydrogen, halogen, nitrile or thiocyanate, or selected from C_1 - C_8 alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C_2 - C_8 alkenyl and C_3 - C_8 alkynyl, optionally attached to the aromatic ring by -S- or -O-, and n is 1 or 2, with the proviso that when R_1 and all groups R_3 , R_4 , R_6 and R_7 are hydrogen and R_5 is methyl, isopropyl, tert-butyl, or methoxy, then n = 2.

22. (Previously presented) A method of disinfecting a surface comprising the step of applying a disinfectant to said surface, said disinfectant comprising:
a compound selected from alcohols, surfactants and solvents; and
a compound according to formula I:

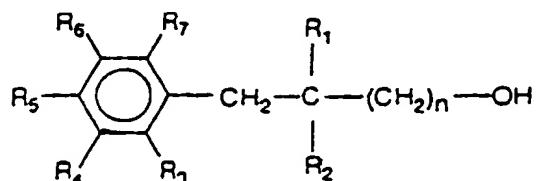


wherein,

R_1 is hydrogen or is selected from C_1 - C_8 alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C_2 - C_8 alkenyl and C_3 - C_8 alkynyl;

R_2 is selected from C_1 - C_8 alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C_2 - C_8 alkenyl and C_3 - C_8 alkynyl; and each of R_3 to R_7 independently, is hydrogen, halogen, nitrile or thiocyanate, or selected from C_1 - C_8 alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C_2 - C_8 alkenyl and C_3 - C_8 alkynyl, optionally attached to the aromatic ring by -S- or -O-, and n is 1 or 2, with the proviso that when R_1 and all groups R_3 , R_4 , R_6 and R_7 are hydrogen and R_5 is methyl, isopropyl, tert-butyl, or methoxy, then n = 2.

23. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 22, wherein said surface is skin, a mucous membrane, or a surgical glove.
24. (Previously presented) A method of deodorizing a surface comprising the step of applying a disinfectant to said surface, said deodorant comprising: a compound selected from alcohols, surfactants and solvents; and a compound according to formula I:



wherein,

I

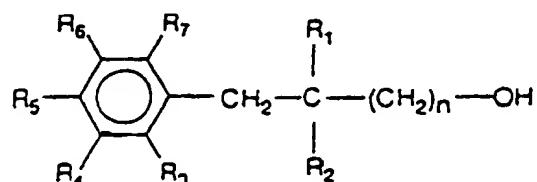
R_1 is hydrogen or is selected from C_1 - C_8 alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C_2 - C_8 alkenyl and C_3 - C_8 alkynyl;

R_2 is selected from C_1 - C_8 alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C_2 - C_8 alkenyl and C_3 - C_8 alkynyl; and

each of R_3 to R_7 independently, is hydrogen, halogen, nitrile or thiocyanate, or selected from C_1 - C_8 alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C_2 - C_8 alkenyl and C_3 - C_8 alkynyl, optionally attached to the aromatic ring by -S- or -O-, and n is 1 or 2, with the proviso that when R_1 and all groups R_3 , R_4 , R_6 and R_7 are hydrogen and R_5 is methyl, isopropyl, tert-butyl, or methoxy, then n = 2.

25. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 24, wherein said surface is skin.

26. (Currently Amended) Process for the production of a compound of formula I:



I

wherein,

R_1 is hydrogen;

R_2 is selected from C_1 - C_8 alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C_2 - C_8 alkenyl and C_3 - C_8 alkynyl; and each of R_3 to R_7 independently, is hydrogen, halogen, nitrile or thiocyanate, or selected from C_1 - C_8 alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C_2 - C_8 alkenyl and C_3 - C_8 alkynyl, optionally attached to the aromatic ring by -S- or -O-, and n is 1 or 2;

~~with the proviso, that~~

i) ~~when all groups R_3 through R_7 are hydrogen, then~~

~~$n = 2$;~~

ii) ~~when all groups R_3 , R_4 , R_6 and R_7 are hydrogen and R_5 is methyl,~~

~~isopropyl, tert-butyl, or methoxy, then $n = 2$;~~

iii) ~~when R_3 , R_6 and R_7 are hydrogen, R_2 is methyl, and R_4 and/or R_5 are~~

~~hydrogen or C_1 - C_6 alkyl, then $n = 2$;~~

iv) ~~when R_4 through R_7 are hydrogen, R_2 is methyl or ethyl, and R_3 is~~

~~methyl or methoxy, then $n = 2$;~~

v) ~~when R_3 , R_5 and R_7 are hydrogen, R_2 is methyl, R_4 and R_6 are methyl~~

~~or R_4 is hydrogen and R_6 is methyl, then $n = 2$; and~~

vi) ~~when R_2 is butyl, R_3 and R_5 are chloride, and all other groups~~

~~R_4 , R_6 and R_7 are hydrogen, then $n = 2$;~~

said process comprising the steps of:

a) monoalkylating a malonic acid dialkyl ester to introduce the group R_2 ;

- b) dialkylating the monoalkylated malonic acid alkyl ester with a benzyl halide optionally substituted at the aromatic ring to introduce the groups R₃ through R₇ which are other than hydrogen;
- c) saponifying and decarboxylating the dialkylated malonic acid dialkyl ester to form a corresponding 3-aryl-substituted propionic acid, and
- d) reducing the 3-aryl-substituted propionic acid to form a desired alcohol of formula I.

28. (Withdrawn) A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative according to claim 27, wherein R₃ to R₇ are hydrogen, R₁ is hydrogen, R₂ is hydrogen and n is 1.

29. (Withdrawn) A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative according to claim 27, wherein R₃ to R₇ are hydrogen, R₁ is hydrogen, R₂ is methyl, and n is 1.

30. (Withdrawn) A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative according to claim 27, wherein R₃ and R₅ to R₇ are hydrogen, R₄ is methyl, R₁ is hydrogen, R₂ is methyl, and n is 1.

31. (Withdrawn) A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative according to claim 27, wherein R_3 to R_7 are hydrogen, R_1 is hydrogen, R_2 is ethyl, and n is 1.
32. (Withdrawn) A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative according to claim 27, wherein R_3 and R_5 to R_7 are hydrogen, R_4 is methyl, R_1 is hydrogen, R_2 is ethyl, and n is 1.
33. (Previously presented) A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative according to claim 14, wherein R_3 and R_5 to R_7 are hydrogen, R_4 is chlorine, R_1 is hydrogen, R_2 is ethyl and n is 1.
34. (Previously presented) A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative according to claim 14, wherein R_4 to R_7 are hydrogen, R_3 is chlorine, R_1 is hydrogen, R_2 is ethyl and n is 1.
35. (Previously presented) A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative according to claim 14, wherein R_3 , R_4 , R_6 and R_7 are hydrogen, R_5 is chlorine, R_1 is hydrogen, R_2 is ethyl and n is 1.

36. (Withdrawn) A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative according to claim 27, wherein are hydrogen, R_4 and R_5 are chlorine, R_1 is hydrogen, R_2 is ethyl and n is 1.
37. (Withdrawn) A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative according to claim 27, wherein R_4 to R_7 are hydrogen, R_3 is methyl, R_1 is hydrogen, R_2 is ethyl and n is 1.
38. (Withdrawn) A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative according to claim 27, wherein R_3 , R_6 and R_7 are hydrogen, R_4 and R_5 are methyl, R_1 is hydrogen, R_2 is ethyl and n is 1.
39. (Withdrawn) A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative according to claim 27, wherein R_3 and R_5 to R_7 are hydrogen, R_4 is methoxy, R_1 is hydrogen, R_2 is ethyl and n is 1.
40. (Withdrawn) A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative according to claim 27, wherein R_3 , R_6 and R_7 are hydrogen, R_4 and R_5 are methoxy, R_1 is hydrogen, R_2 is ethyl and n is 1.

41. (Withdrawn) A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative according to claim 27, wherein R₃ to R₇ are hydrogen, R₁ is hydrogen, R₂ is butylene, and n is 1.
42. (Withdrawn) A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative according to claim 27, wherein R₃ to R₇ are hydrogen, R₁ is hydrogen, R₂ is pentyl and n is 1.
43. (New) A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative according to claim 14, wherein R₁ is C₂H₅, R₂ through R₇ are H, and n is 1.
44. (New) A shampoo or shower gel containing a preservative according to claim 21, wherein R₁ is C₂H₅, R₂ through R₇ are H, and n is 1.
45. (New) A method according to claim 22, wherein R₁ is C₂H₅, R₂ through R₇ are H, and n is 1.
46. (New) A method according to claim 24, wherein R₁ is C₂H₅, R₂ through R₇ are H, and n is 1.

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47. (New) A method according to claim 26, wherein R₁ is C₂H₅, R₂ through R₇ are H, and n is 1.